



Montana Office of Public Instruction
Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
In-state toll free 1-888-231-9393
www.opi.mt.gov/IndianEd

Model Lesson Plan

Social Studies Grades 7/8

Topic 6 - The Structure of Tribal leadership

Stage 1 Desired Results

Established Goals:

Students will identify and describe basic features of the political system in the United States and identify representative leaders from various levels (e.g., local, state, tribal, federal, branches of government). (SS2:B8.2)

Students will identify the significance of tribal sovereignty and Montana tribal governments' relationship to local, state and federal governments. (SS2:B8.3)

Suggested Lesson Time Frame: Five days, 50-minute class periods

Understandings:

Reservations are lands that have been reserved by the tribes for their own use through treaties, statutes, and executive orders and were not "given" to them. (EU 5)

Under the American legal system, Indian tribes have sovereign powers separate and independent from the federal and state governments. However, the extent and breadth of tribal sovereignty is not the same for each tribe. (EU 7)

Montana Tribal Governments are unique aspects of our Democracy.

Students will be able to...

Research unique aspects of tribal government.
Express their findings orally and in writing.

Essential Questions:

How do Tribal Governments operate?

Do each of the Montana Tribes have separate governments?

Explain the term ***Sovereignty***? Does this term impact the roles of Tribal governments?

What is the election process of the Montana Tribal Governments?

What are some differences between Montana State Government and Montana's Tribal Governments?

Students will know...

Basic functions of tribal governments.
Understand different forms of governments.

Stage 2 Assessment Evidence

Performance Tasks:

Create a diagram of a Montana Tribal Government Structure.

Interview a Tribal Council member (if available).

Research historical and contemporary aspects of select Montana Tribal Governments.

Display findings and give a brief overview of their research.

Vocabulary:

Reservations

Tribal Nations

Sovereignty

Tribal Government

Tribal Elections

Tribal Council

Elders

Traditions

Tribal Hierarchy: Clan, Band and Council

Montana Tribal Nations:

Assiniboiné

Blackfeet

Crow

Chippewa

Cree

Gros Ventre

Kootenai

Northern Cheyenne

Pend d' Oreille

Salish

Sioux



Montana Office of Public Instruction
Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
In-state toll free 1-888-231-9393
www.opi.mt.gov/IndianEd

Model Lesson Plan

Social Studies

Grades 7/8

Stage 3 Learning Plan

- A. Compare and Contrast Montana Tribal and State Governments (refer to Essential Questions)
 - It is recommended that the instructor read the Tribal Nations of Montana Handbook for a good overview of tribal sovereignty and the federal/state/tribal relationships. Excerpts could be taken out to share with students to help provide background information.
- B. Students will discuss how various Montana Tribal Council members are elected and what type of term they serve.
- C. Students will write a brief 2 – 3 page summary and give an oral interpretation of their research. Depending upon class size you may want to assign students a particular tribal government to research so all Montana tribal governments are included. Assign a group to research just Montana state government.
- D. Internet research: links to on-line Native American newspapers are also included for students to conduct research on contemporary issues that tribal governments are addressing.

Materials/Resources Needed:

Tribal Nations of Montana Handbook (overview of sovereignty and tribal government)

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/PDF/TitleI/MTTribal.pdf>

National Tribal Justice Resource Center (good site with links to tribal constitutions)

<http://www.tribalresourcecenter.org/tribalcourts/codes/constdirectory.asp>

“Fast Facts About Montana Tribal Governments” – from the Montana Indian Education Association.

<http://www.mtiea.org/FastFactsAboutMontanaTribalGovernments,FinalDec.18,2006.doc>

Tribal Government Websites

Blackfeet www.blackfeetnation.com

<http://doc.narf.org/nill/Constitutions/BlackfeetConst/bfconttoc.htm>

Chippewa - Cree Tribes of the Rocky Boy's Reservation <http://rockyboy.org/>

<http://rockyboy.org/Constitution/CCT%20Constitution%202004.htm>

Crow Tribe Apsaalooke Nation <http://www.crownations.net/>

<http://www.crowtribe.com/const.htm>

Fort Belknap – Assiniboine/Gros Ventre <http://www.fortbelknapnations-nsn.gov/>

http://www.ntjrc.org/ccfolder/fort_belknap_const.htm

Fort Peck Tribes – Assiniboine/Sioux <http://www.fortpecktribes.org>
http://www.fortpecktribes.org/pdf/fpt_constitution_bylaws.pdf

Little Shell Tribe <http://www.littleshelltribe.us/>

Northern Cheyenne Tribal Government <http://www.cheyennenation.com/>
<http://www.ntjrc.org/ccfolder/ncheyenneconst.pdf>

Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes <http://www.cskt.org>
http://www.cskt.org/documents/gov/cskt_constitution.pdf

These websites link to numerous on-line tribal constitutions (students may also research other tribes besides those residing in Montana)

<http://thorpe.ou.edu/const.html>

<http://thorpe.ou.edu/>

<http://www.tribalresourcecenter.org/tribalcourts/codes/constdirectory.asp>

Links to on-line Tribal / Native American Newspapers

Indian Country Today <http://www.indiancountry.com>

www.indianz.com

Montana Tribal Newspapers and Newsletters
http://mt.gov/work/tribal_newspapers.asp